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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Hidehiko OGAWA

Group Art Unit: 2624

Appl. No. : 10/767,767

Examiner: Thomas D. LEE

Filed : January 30, 2004

For : IMAGE DATA COMMUNICATION APPARATUS AND METHOD

### INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
220 20th Street S.  
Customer Window, Mail Stop \_\_\_\_\_  
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03  
Arlington, VA 22202

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, § 1.97 and § 1.98, and supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statement filed on April 1, 2004, Applicant hereby calls the following information to the attention of the Examiner assigned to the above-identified application.

Applicant submits herewith a copy of each of two Petitions Against Issue of Patent from the Japanese Patent Office dated May 21, 2004 (shown by the enclosed Notice of Dispatching Copies of Petitions Against the Issue of the Patent, of which an English language translation is attached), with respect to counterpart Japanese Patent No. 3461750, in which petitioners cited the following documents:

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Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication Hei 10-307769 to MATSUSHITA GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS, published on November 17, 1998. Applicant notes that this patent is assigned to the assignee of the present application (whose name has been changed to Panasonic Communications Co., Ltd.), and relates to the subject matter relevant to the feature of returning an error message. A whole translation of this document is enclosed;

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication Hei 10-191010 to NEC CORP, published on July 21, 1998;

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication Hei 10-327288 to MURATA KIKAI K.K., published on December 8, 1998;

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication Hei 08-087342 to MITSUBISHI DENKI K.K., published on April 2, 1996;

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication Hei 07-104955 to CANON INC, published on July 21, 1995;

RFC821 "SIMPLE MAIL TRANSFER PROTOCOL" by Jonathan B. Postel, published on August, 1994;

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication Hei 08-242326 to MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD., published on September 17, 1996. Applicant notes that this document is assigned to an organization associated with the assignee of the present application, and relates to the subject matter relevant to the feature of returning an

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error message. An English language patent family member of this document is noted below;

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication Hei 10-107944 to RICOH K.K., published on April 24, 1998;

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication Hei 10-28217 to MURATA KIKAI K.K., published on December 22, 1998; and

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication Hei 10-341306 to RICOH K.K., published on January 27, 1998.

Applicant also brings to the Examiner's attention the following information.

The following documents are counterpart applications in the English language, corresponding to the noted ones of the above cited documents:

European Patent Application No. EP 0 881 816 A2 to MURATA KIKAI K.K., published on December 2, 1998 is the counterpart application of Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication Hei 10-327288;

UK Patent Application No. GB 2 293 901 A to MITSUBISHI DENKI K.K., published on October 4, 1996 is the counterpart application of Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication Hei 08-087342;

U.S Patent No. 5,881,233 issued to TOYODA et al. on March 9, 1999 is the counterpart application of Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication Hei 08-242326; and

European Patent Application No. EP 0 881 916 A2 to MURATA KIKAI K.K., published on January 14, 1998 is the counterpart application of Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication Hei 10-28217.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider and cite the above documents. Copies of the above-noted documents as well as English language abstracts are attached to U.S. Application Nos. 10/767,719, 10/767,769, and 10/767,767, and have been listed on a PTO-1449 Form which is also attached hereto. In addition, regarding Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication Hei 10-307769, a whole translation is attached. The Notice of Dispatching Copies of Petitions Against Issue of Patent from the Japanese Patent Office is also enclosed along with an English language translation. Further, a copy of each of the two Petitions Against Issue of Patent is enclosed along with an English language translation of each petition.

Applicant notes that the present application is one of fifteen continuations of parent application No. 09/461,402, as set forth in the Information Disclosure Statement of April 1, 2004, which is now U.S. Patent No. 6,710,894. Since the same above-noted materials are thus being cited in each of the fifteen pending applications, copies of the cited documents, petitions, and Notice of Dispatching are not being duplicatively submitted in all fifteen applications. Rather, pursuant to a telephone discussion with Examiner Thomas Lee on June 24, 2004, the noted copies are submitted in only the above noted three of the fifteen applications, but is to be considered in each of them. The Examiner indicated that this procedure is acceptable in view of the costly, duplicative,

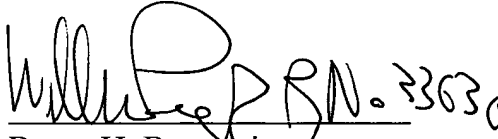
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and burdensome alternative of submitting fifteen copies of the above-noted voluminous materials. The Examiner is respectfully thanked for his cooperation regarding this matter. Nevertheless, should the Examiner decide that additional copies are necessary, the undersigned will provide the same.

Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached PTO-1449 Form to confirm consideration of these documents and to return a copy of the Form to the Applicant with the next official communication.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments regarding this paper, or the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,  
Hidehiko OGAWA

  
Bruce H. Bernstein  
Reg. No. 29,027

June 30, 2004  
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.  
1950 Roland Clarke Place  
Reston, VA 20191  
(703) 716-1191

FORM PTO-1449

U.S. Department of Commerce  
Patent and Trademark OfficeAtty. Docket No.  
P24506Application No.  
10/767, 767INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Applicant  
Hidehiko OGAWAFiling Date  
January 30, 2004Group  
2624

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	5 8 8 1 2 3 3	03/09/99	TOYODA et al			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
10	- 3 0 7 7 6 9	11/17/98	JAPAN			X
10	- 1 9 1 0 1 0	07/21/98	JAPAN			
10	- 3 2 7 2 8 8	12/08/98	JAPAN			
08	- 0 8 7 3 4 2	04/02/96	JAPAN			
07	- 1 0 4 9 5 5	07/21/95	JAPAN			
08	- 2 4 2 3 2 6	09/17/96	JAPAN			X
10	- 1 0 7 9 4 4	04/24/98	JAPAN			
1	0 - 2 8 2 1 7	12/22/98	JAPAN			
10	- 3 4 1 3 0 6	01/27/98	JAPAN			
	0 8 8 1 8 1 6	12/02/98	E.P.O			
	2 2 9 3 9 0 1	10/04/96	UNITED KINGDOM			
	0 8 8 1 9 1 6	01/14/98	E.P.O			

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

1	RFC821 "SIMPLE MAIL TRANSFER PROTOCOL" by Jonathan B. Postel, published on August, 1994.

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

\*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.